

Public Law 996

CHAPTER 984

August 6, 1956
[H. R. 7596]

AN ACT

To provide for the disposal of federally owned property at obsolescent canalized waterways and for other purposes.

Waterways, canalized.
Disposition.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, (a) whenever the Secretary of the Army, upon recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, determines that any of the following listed Federal project structures and appurtenances, including real property acquired therefor, no longer economically serve the purpose for which they were constructed or acquired, such property may be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of existing law: Upper White River, Arkansas (three locks and dams); Big Sandy River, Kentucky (five locks and dams); Rough River, Kentucky (one lock and dam); Osage River, Missouri (one lock and dam); Muskingum River, Ohio (eleven locks and dams); Yamhill River, Oregon (one lock and dam); Congaree River, South Carolina (one lock and dam); Little Kanawha River, West Virginia (five locks and dams): *Provided*, That the provisions of this section shall not be effective with respect to the Big Sandy River, Kentucky, and the Rough River, Kentucky, pending and until a determination has been made by the Secretary of the Army that the project structures and appurtenances including real property will not be required in connection with any improvements for navigation or other allied purposes under consideration in surveys of the Big Sandy River and Rough River now authorized.

(b) If any of the project structures and appurtenances (including real property) listed in subsection (a) will be rendered inoperable by flooding caused by current construction by the United States, disposal of such structures and appurtenances under this Act shall be deferred so long as local interests defray the costs of maintenance and operation of such project structures and appurtenances (including real property) under arrangements satisfactory to the Secretary of the Army.

Appropriations.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be expended from appropriations heretofore or hereafter made for civil functions administered by the Department of the Army, such funds as may be necessary to restore drainage and otherwise prepare the project structures for abandonment with a minimum of adverse effect on adjacent areas: *Provided*, That in lieu of preparing dam numbered 3 on the Big Sandy River for abandoning such funds may be expended for modification of the lock and restoration for said dam either as a movable or fixed type dam but not to exceed \$50,000, contingent upon local interests furnishing such additional funds as may be necessary and agreeing to accept the property and take over operation and maintenance of the said structure.

Conveyance to local interests.

SEC. 3. The Administrator of General Services is hereby authorized to transfer or to convey by quitclaim deed to local interests defraying the cost (in whole or in part) of maintaining and operating such project structures and appurtenances (including real property), States, political subdivisions thereof, adjacent property owners, or others, all or any part of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to such property upon such terms and conditions as the Administrator may determine to be in the public interest, after making allowance for any capital investment which local interests maintaining and operating such project structures and appurtenances (including real property) may have made, regardless of any other provision of law: *Provided, however*, That preference shall be given first, to local interests who, on the date of enactment of this Act, are defraying the cost (in

Preference.

whole or in part) of maintaining and operating such project structures and appurtenances (including real property), and second to State or local governmental agencies, to acquire property not transferred to other Federal agencies. Providing that the provisions of this Act, relating to the Palestine Dam (lock and dam numbered 4) on the Little Kanawha River in West Virginia, be inoperative until such time as the Federal Government has reimbursed the State of West Virginia through its Conservation Commission, the sum of \$20,000 to cover the cost of damage to the State-owned fish hatchery near Palestine, which was damaged by the failure of the Government to keep the dam in proper repair.

Approved August 6, 1956.

Palestine Dam.

Public Law 997

CHAPTER 985

AN ACT

To amend section 7 of the War Claims Act of 1948, with respect to claims of certain religious organizations functioning in the Philippine Islands.

August 6, 1956
[H. R. 6586]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 7 of the War Claims Act of 1948 (50 App. U. S. C., sec. 2006) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(h) (1) Any religious organization functioning in the Philippines and of the same denomination as a religious organization functioning in the United States which furnished relief (as described, and during the period designated, in subsection (a) of this section) in the Philippines to members of the Armed Forces of the United States or to civilian American citizens shall be compensated from the War Claims Fund (A) for expenditures incurred, or for payment of the fair value of supplies used by such organization, for the purpose of furnishing such relief and (B) for loss and damage sustained as a consequence of the war to its schools, colleges, universities, scientific observatories, hospitals, dispensaries, orphanages, and other property or facilities connected with its educational, medical, or welfare work. No payments shall be made to any organization under this subsection if such organization has received an award under subsection (a) or (b) of this section, and no payments shall be made to any organization pursuant to clause (B) of this paragraph unless such organization has received an award for war damages from the Philippine War Damage Commission under the provisions of the Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946, as amended.

War Claims Act
of 1948, amend-
ments.
62 Stat. 1245.

Religious or-
ganizations in the
Philippines.
Compensation.

“(2) The Commission is authorized to receive, determine according to law, and provide for the payment of claims filed under this subsection. Each claim allowed by the Commission under this subsection shall be certified to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment out of the War Claims Fund. All payments under this subsection shall be made to an organization or individual in the United States designated by the claimant, and, in the case of claims under clause (B) of paragraph (1) of this subsection such payments shall be used for the purpose of restoring the educational, medical, and welfare facilities described in such clause.

“(3) Claims for benefits under this subsection must be filed within six months after the date of enactment of this subsection. The Commission shall complete its determination with respect to each claim filed under this subsection at the earliest practicable date, but in no event later than one year after the date on which such claim was filed.

60 Stat. 128.
50 U.S.C. app.
1751 note.